23rd September 1961]

*1770 Q.—SRI A. A. RASHEED: Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(a) whether a Minimum Wage Committee for Tannery Workers' has been constituted recently; and

(b) the basis of representation in the Committee?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee has been constituted on the basis of representation prescribed in section 9 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. Under this section, the Government shall nominate representatives of employers and employees who shall be equal in number and independent members not exceeding one third of the total number of members. One of the independent members will be nominated as the Chairman by the Government. Accordingly, the Government have nominated four representatives each of employers and employees and 3 independent members, who are Government officials as members of the Committee. The Commissioner of Labour who is one of the independent members has been appointed as the Chairman of the Committee.

SRI A. A. RASHEED: Sir, may I know whether the Committee has submitted any report? If so, will it be placed on the table of the House?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: Sir, it will take some time.

Apex Co-operative Society

*1771 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Electricity be pleased to state—

(a) whether this Government have recommended to the Centre that an Apex Co-operative Society may be created for the Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH: (a) A proposal for establishing an Apex Silk Weavers' Co-operative Society in the State with financial assistance from the Centre has been sent to the All-India Handloom Board for approval.

(b) The seventeen silk weavers' co-operative societies in the State will invest in the share capital of the proposed Apex Silk Weavers' Co-operative Society. The State Government also propose to invest Rs. 3 lakhs in its share capital structure. The Society will arrange for the purchase of the required raw materials for the silk looms in the co-operative fold, for marketing their production and will attend to the problem of silk weavers.